

Forest Certification Work Instruction**Date of Draft Document:****Effective Date:** August 5, 2005**Revision Number:** 1**Supersedes Version Dated:** June 20, 2005

Work Instruction Title: 6.2 Integrating Public Recreational Opportunities with management on State Forest Lands**Work Area Group:** 6 - Education/Recreation Operations

Purpose: To develop, operate, maintain and promote an integrated recreation system that operates within the auspices of the state forest management planning program.

Work Instruction:

- 1) DNR is committed to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
- 2) Recreational opportunities on State Forest lands are integrated with forest management programs. Ongoing communications with Forest Unit Managers and District Supervisors also assure recreational facility development, enhancements, or reductions are integrated and made compatible with forest operations. Public and Tribal participation regarding recreational facilities is encouraged during the Compartment Review process and other meetings held in the State.
- 3) DNR works with public interests, local units of government, user groups and DNR resource and administrative divisions to identify recreational needs and impacts.
 - a) DNR complies with statutory provisions for providing and planning development and maintenance of recreational facilities within the state and on State Forest lands and they are carried out through specific planning documents that guide the statewide recreation and trails programs.
 - b) DNR works with sponsors and local units of government to administer grant funds for trails. These funds are dispersed through a process of grant project application and review. Applications review is conducted by department staff, based on criteria guidance provided by public advisory groups to the programs.
 - c) Some of the public advisory boards that the DNR works with are: Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Board, Snowmobile Advisory Committee, and the Recreational Trails Program Advisory Board.
 - d) DNR resource divisions conduct reviews for resource impacts related to any proposed recreational project on state forest lands.
- 4) DNR manages recreational uses to accommodate various demands.
 - a) Recreational activities on state forest lands include but are not limited to:
(See chart on next page)

Recreational Activity	Management Responsibility
Hunting	DNR Wildlife Division (WD)
Trapping	WD
Fishing	DNR Fisheries Division (FSHD)
Camping/Designated Campground/Dispersed/Group	Forest, Minerals, and Fire Management Division (FMFMD)
ORV trails	FMFMD
Snowmobile trails	FMFMD
Pathways (cross-country skiing, hiking; back packing, biking, and mountain biking)	FMFMD
Boating access sites, Kayak/canoe tours	Parks & Recreation Bureau
Equestrian trail riding	FMFMD
Field Trials with dogs, dog training, and dog tracking	FMFMD & WLD
Wildlife viewing, birding tours	WLD
Scenic tours (e.g., water falls, scenic sites, spring wildflowers, fall color tours)	FMFMD
Geological tours	FMFMD
Wild fruit, nut, mushroom gathering	FMFMD
Medicinal plant gathering	FMFMD
Aesthetics and spirituality – passive recreation, unique recreational opportunities – i.e. Wilderness, Wild and Natural Areas	FMFMD, WLD
Extreme sports/endurance sports	FMFMD
Commercial operations and events	FMFMD

- 5) Resource Impacts as a result of recreational use are reported, monitored, and addressed.
 - a) Impacts on campgrounds and trails are reported, monitored and addressed.
 - b) Impacts on lands adversely affected are reported, monitored, and addressed. (e.g. excessive ORV damage. Refer to monitoring section for other key examples)
- 6) DNR evaluates recreational facilities and ensures that changes are made when needed.
 - a) Open/closure of campgrounds/facilities and/or public land areas is recommended when determined by the monitoring process
 - b) Additional facilities are recommended when determined necessary by the monitoring process.

Scope: (All State Forest Land and Affected Divisions): ☒ State Forest Land ☒ Other: Office of Communications
☒ DNR – FMFM ☒ DNR – Wildlife ☒ DNR – Fish ☒ DNR – Law ☒ DNR – Parks

Responsibility and Role: (Staff who will implement or supervise this instruction)

Job Title/Division	Role
Recreation Specialist/FMFM	Coordinate the planning, review by all divisions, development and monitoring of public recreation facilities and opportunities
Forester, Forest Technician, Fire Officer/FMFM	Plan, develop & maintain public recreation facilities and opportunities
Manager/Supervisor, Field Stations/PRD	Plan, develop and maintain boating access sites and facilities
Park Interpreter/OC	Implement public outreach activities associated with major recreational opportunities on State Forest
Information & Education Coordinator/WD	Produce Hunting & Trapping Guides
Fisheries Biologist/FD	Produce Fishing Guides
Recreation & Trails Section Manager/FMFM	Approve the planning and development of public recreation facilities and opportunities
Land Use Program Leader/FMFM	Provide direction to staff and organizations that want to conduct recreational events on State Forest
Interpretive Manager/OC	Manage Michigan and Fishing Heritage Center
ORV Specialist/Trails Analyst FMFM	Ensure that on the ground work by trail sponsors meets Department standards and specifications
Fire Supervisor/FMFM	Plan, develop & supervise the maintenance of recreation facilities and opportunities
Unit Manager/FMFM	Oversee all planning and operation of public recreation opportunities at the management unit level.
Conservation Officer/LED	Enforce state fish and game laws as provided in annual hunting and fishing guides, ORV, snowmobile and marine guides. Administers Safety Training programs.
ADA Liaisons/ DNR	Enforce and review ADA law and requirements

Training/Skills: (Those required to accomplish work instruction)

Item	Brief Description of Skill or Course	Exists/ New
	Public Speaking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	American's with Disabilities Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Hazard Tree Identification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Exotic Plant Identification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Snowmobile/ATV Operator's Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Chain saw safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Heavy Equipment Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Snowmobile Grants Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Communications software (Power Point, Word, Excel)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Arc View	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	BMP Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Commercial Driver's License	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Soil Erosion/Sediment Control Certification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Lift-truck Certification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> N

References:

- Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Trail and Route Maintenance Handbook (IC-1991);
- Annual guides for hunting & trapping, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, ORV's, and marine;
- Public Act 451 of 1994;

- American with Disabilities Act (ADA), P.L. 101-336.
 - Planning Documents:
 - Statewide Trails Initiative – March 1992 – *Provides for statewide trails overview.*
 - Forest Recreation Plan – June 1995 – *Provides for non-motorized forest recreation*
 - ORV Plan – 1979-. *2005 plan update and trail inventory underway.*
 - Snowmobile Plan – *Annual updates VIA grant sponsor application; proposal for statewide program plan under review for 2005 implementation.*
 - Assessment of Recreation and Trails – July 1999 – *Provides program overview and projected needs to support public recreation demands.*
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Monitoring: Occurs at three levels

1. Forest Management Unit Level:
 - Active management practices (i.e., prescriptions) conducted by WD/FD/FMFM are monitored subsequent to implementation via the Forest Treatment Proposal process. WD and FD also conduct game and non-game population surveys for management purposes such as harvest regulation and inventory.
 - T&E species reviews
 - Monitoring quality of Operations & Inventory data.
 - Inspections of Land Use Permits.
 - ORV trail sponsors must monitor impacts and management actions.
 - Snowmobile trail sponsors must monitor impacts and management actions.
 - Campground inspections.
 - Inspections of boating access sites and associated facilities.
 - Road inspections
 - Compartment Review/Open House process.
 - Trail inspection reports
 - BMP non-compliance reporting
 2. District / Eco-regional Level:
 - public values expressed as a set of indicators to gauge management actions; also
 - issues specific to landscape scales are addressed at this level (e.g., road closures).
 - Enforcement of state laws and Department administrative rules through hunting & trapping, fishing, individual species, ORV, snowmobile, and marine guides.
 3. State Level: databases maintained at each division central office which compile monitoring activities at the management unit level.
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Records:

Hardcopy:

- Forest Treatment Proposals (R-4048) and completion reports (R-4048-1E).
 - ORV trail monitoring (PR-1990-2 and PR-1990-3) and maintenance (PR-1990-1).
 - Snowmobile trail monitoring and maintenance; no standard form, with the exception of weekly grooming reports (PR-1855).
 - Land Use Permits (PR-1138).
 - State Forest campground inspections (R-4117).
 - Boating access/facilities inspections; Grant-in Aid/PRD (R-3024-A, R-3024-B, R-3024-C, R-3024-D).
 - Road projects/bridges (project reporting form; PR-4288). There is no form for road inspections.
 - Hazard tree inspections (form in draft).
 - ORV/snowmobile trail proposal form (R-1862-E).
 - Land acquisition (R-4077-E).
 - Annual species harvest reports
 - Wildlife survey reports
 - BMP non-compliance reports
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